

## ROBERTS HAS DRAGNET OUT FOR ELUSIVE BOERS

## Operations of Transvaalers About Bloemfontein Are Puzzling to the British

Investment of Wepener is Abandoned—All London Anx-  
iously Hoping for Good News.

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London, April 17, 4:15 a. m.—Lord Roberts has spread his net far and wide to catch the adventurous commandos who have been making mischief in the southern part of the Bechuanaland Protectorate. The net has not yet been drawn in, but at the headquarters of Lord Roberts the impression exists that the power of the Boers is decreasing.

The Daily News correspondent has them fleeing to the southeast; a Standard correspondent reports them fleeing

message inviting Colonel Baden-Powell to send out to collect the dead and wounded. But when the audience appeared, the Boer commando declined to allow them to be taken. It was discovered, however, that the Boers were not the extent of the Boer commandos has been greatly exaggerated."

The Bloemfontein correspondent of the Times, telegraphing Monday, says: "The Boers, and the Boer commando Wepener, are reported to be moving in a southerly direction, but the object of the movement is uncertain."

Northward: a Daily Telegraph correspondent says that some are going north and others south, while a Morning Post representative says it is not known what the Boers are doing. Evidently the feeling at Bloemfontein is that the disposition of Lord Roberts's troops are such as to enable him to concentrate a large force rapidly anywhere, and that being so, aware of this, are presumed to be thinking now chiefly of retreat.

news, there is much quiet discussion in the financial circles of London respecting the future of mining industries after the close of hostilities. Mr. Alfred Beit and other large capitalists, but his views are not known. Mining men are waiting for the speeches of the chancellor of the exchequer and the prime minister, some of whom are close to Ladysmith.

**Hoping For Favorable News.**

London waits confidently for almost immediate announcement of news favorable to the British cause. There exists, however, as to any rapid counter-advance toward Pretoria, chiefly on account of the lack of horses, many of which die in the course of the long journey. It is expected, however, that the three days' journey by rail is made in open trucks, that the arrangements for feeding and watering are inadequate and that the unfortunate animals will suffer very seriously in consequence of these hardships.

Despite the energy of its buyers abroad, the war office foresees much difficulty in supplying the enormous quantities of munitions required.

The Daily Mail has the following from Lady Sarnwell, daughter of Mafeking, April 5: "The pinch of hunger is not so bad as it has been at any time more distant than ever. Since March 31 there had been no shelling until today. Commandant Snyman having taken it upon himself to bar Colonel Plumer's road."

his possession.

It is the railway, with its potential earnings and resources, may be regarded as a valuable asset in possession of the British government. When the Transvaal is invaded, the railways belonging to the Netherlands Company will also be seized, and these companies of peace were compelled to pay 80 per cent of their profits to the Transvaal government.

It is therefore to be considered that this 80 per cent will go hereafter to the British government.

Yesterday, however, he returned and the bombardment was renewed with the same intensity. The British firing fourteen-pound shells such as had not been used since the first days of the siege.

The military authorities say the British artillery has nothing to compare with these guns."

**Boers Venture Into Bloemfontein.**

The Bloemfontein correspondent of the Morning Post, telegraphing Monday, says:

"The result of the meeting at the war indemnity will be the mine. It informed South Africans state that the annual expenditures of the Transvaal government in recent years have been £1,000,000. The British government administration at least £7,500,000 can be saved. This margin will allow the payment of interest on an indemnity of £100,000,000. The total cost of the war cannot be less than £100,000,000. Without these mines and railways there would be no possible recovery."

day, says: "Small bodies of Boers are being sent forward and are even coming within sight or ten miles of Bloemfontein. Three Hohannesburg 'Zarps' actually entered the town one night and escaped without being discovered."

Boer forces were sent yesterday at Karee Siding was designed to cover the withdrawal of an immense convoy of provisions. There is no doubt that the Boer incursion into the southeastern part of the Orange Free State due to the lack of the replenishing vic-

source for meeting an indemnity.

**FIGHTING STILL CONTINUES.**

Commandant Dewet Engages Troops Sent to Brabant's Assistance.

Brandfort, Friday, April 12.—Fighting with Brabant's horse at Jammersberg drift continues. Commandant Petrus Dewet is reported to have engaged troops sent from Bloemfontein to Brabant's assistance.

There has also been a brush with the British column advancing toward Bullfontein without decisive results. All the foreign attaches are now here.

**KRUGER IS ALL RIGHT.**

President of the Transvaal Enjoying Excellent Health.

Pretoria, Sunday, April 15.—President Kruger keeps in excellent health.

The Daily News has the following from Reddersburg, dated Friday:

"General Chernside saw the rear guard of the Boers on the morning of the 10th and treated as guests of the government.

**More Prisoners at St. Helena.**

Jamestown, St. Helena, April 16.—The remainder of the Boer prisoners were landed today at Despatch. The Boers, Colonel Schiel and the two others who had been confined at the citadel, after their attempt to escape, have been re-

east in full retreat. The enemy appear to be in strong force four miles east of Reddersburg. They are falling back before our advance guard."

The Lourenzo Marquez correspondent of the Daily Mail, telegraphing Sunday, April 15, says: "The tone of the standard belligerents shows that the Transvaal government is relying strongly upon American intervention. Great results are expected from the campaign of Webster Davis and from President Roosevelt."

Is Pure Invention.

Berlin, April 16.—The report of the conferences between Minister von Buelow and the Boer delegates is semi-officially declared to be pure invention.

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"JAZA" IN LONDON.

While the semi-blockade of Delagoa Bay has not done the slightest harm to the Transvaal, it has enriched foreign firms at the expense of ruined British-ers.

A Ladysmith special, dated April 16, says that natives report that the Boers in the Alandje district have retired to the Orange River.

Another Ladysmith special, dated April 16, contains information tends to confirm the report that the Boers blew up three important collieries near Wessels Nek, completely

The chief Boer delegate, Fischer, accompanied by Dr. Leyds, visited the president of the Dutch cabinet yesterday at The Hague, but the doings of the delegates create little speculation in England.

Frederick Villiers, veteran war correspondent, who arrived at Southampton yesterday, said he was disappointed to find that the worst of the war is over, but that guerrilla warfare would continue for some time.

At the same time, Dr. Leyds, who arrived yesterday, said he was disappointed to find that the worst of the war is over, but that guerrilla warfare would continue for some time.

50 slaughter oxen at Weperer, and the following day he stated the British "causing them to fly in the direction of Wolvoerpot, apparently over the Orange River."

The Irish-American ambulance arrived at Pretoria April 13.

**Report Was Exaggerated.**

A dispatch to the Times from Mafeking dated April 16, which earlier reports says: "A Colonel Pinder repulse, Commandant Synidan sent a

Indianapolis, Ind., April 16.—President Samuel Gompers of the American Federation of Labor has sent to S. E. Donnelly, president of the United Brotherhood of Carpenters and Joiners of America, the names of John B. Lennon, James Duncraft of the Granite Cutters' Union, and John A. Kidd of the Woodworkers' association, as committee members to assist in the arbitration of the difficulties between the American union and the Irish-type mechanists. This committee will be composed of both of the disputing organizations, and will have power to investigate the troubles and to

53A reports that the burghers captured 150 slaughter oxen at Wepener, and General Frimman that day defeated the British, causing them to fly in the direction of Wolwerpoort, apparently out of the Orange River.

The Irish-American ambulance arrived at Pretoria April 13.

**Report Was Fabricated**

Indianapolis, Ind., April 18.—President Samuel Gompers of the American Federation of Labor has sent to S. B. Donnelly, president of the International Typographical Union, the names of John B. Lennon, secretary of the Typographical Union; James Duncan of the Granite Cutters' association; and T. L. Kidd of the Woodworkers' association. The committee appointed to assist in the arbitration of the

A dispatch to the Times from Mafeking, dated April 16, confirming earlier reports, says: "After Colonel Plumer's repulse, Commandant Snyder sent a

